

520.39649CX3

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): MASUDA, et al  
Serial No.: (not yet assigned)  
Filed: March 29, 2004  
For: PLASMA PROCESSING SYSTEM AND A SAMPLE  
PROCESSING METHOD

**REAFFIRMATION OF CLAIM FOR PRIORITY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

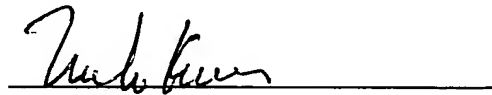
March 29, 2004

Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 and 37 CFR §1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-048933, filed in Japan on February 21, 2000.

The certified copy of the above-referred to Japanese Patent Application was filed on February 21, 2001 in prior application Serial No. 09/788,463, filed February 21, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,



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